

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

071159Z Oct 05

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KATHMANDU 002218

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR SA/INS
NSC FOR GREEN
LONDON FOR POL: BELL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/07/2015
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [PINS](#) [NP](#)
SUBJECT: EU TROIKA SEES STRONG RISK OF POLITICAL COLLAPSE

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Elisabeth Millard. Reasons 1.4 b /d.

Summary

1. (U) An October 6 statement on Nepal released by a European Union (EU) Troika noted that unless all involved moved quickly to address the country's problems effectively, there was a "strong risk" of political collapse. The Troika called on those in Nepal who wanted peace "to act now." Specifically, it suggested that the political parties prepare for a future role in a democratically elected government by recognizing and correcting past mistakes; urged His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN) to reach out to the political parties, to return to multi-party democracy, and ensure security forces respect human rights; and called on the Maoists to put a definitive end to violence and acts of terrorism, while welcoming the Maoist's unilateral cease-fire. It opined that there might be a role for third-party support in brokering and monitoring a formal cease-fire. The Nepali Congress Party (NC) issued a statement after leader GP Koirala's meeting with the Troika, welcoming the visit and the European Parliament's recent resolution in support of peace and democracy in Nepal. End Summary.

Situation Worsening

2. (U) The EU Troika which visited Kathmandu from October 4-6, led by Mr. Tom Phillips, FCO Director for South Asia and Afghanistan, representing the Presidency of the EU, with representatives from Austria (next EU President), the European Commission, and the EU's High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, said the situation in Nepal had worsened since a Troika visit to Nepal in December 2004. There was a "strong risk" of political collapse. After meeting with political leaders, representatives of HMGN, members of civil society, and the international community, including the Ambassador, the Troika concluded that concerned parties had "no time to waste" to stop the situation from deteriorating even further.

King Must Reach Out

3. (U) Though they did not meet with the King, who was out of the capital visiting Western Region towns, the Troika called his February 1 move "self-defeating," and noted that events in 2005 "have darkened the prospect" for a resolution to the armed conflict and political crisis. It called on the King to reach out to political parties and for security forces to respect human rights and tackle the "prevailing culture of impunity." It opined that there might be a role for third-party support in brokering and monitoring a formal cease-fire. The EU also supported peaceful demonstrations by political parties and welcomed their efforts to maintain a common platform. In addition it urged the Parties to pursue transparency and accountability. The Troika called on the Maoists to shun violence and acts of terrorism, noting that continuing extortion, abductions and other human rights abuses, as well as disruptions of development work, "must also cease immediately." The statement highlighted that the Maoists "should be under no illusion: the EU absolutely rejects the use of violence."

HMGN Disagrees, but Parties Welcome Troika Statement

4. (C) Vice Chairman Tulsi Giri told the Ambassador on October 7 that he had met with the Troika but disagreed with their statement. He said he did not understand what they meant by "political collapse." In an October 5 statement following his meeting with the Troika, NC leader GP Koirala noted that restoration of peace and democracy, an end to violence, and an end to an autocratic monarchy was "his final mission in life." He welcomed the Troika visit and noted that the role of a "neutral and credible third party,"

supported by key regional and global players, was "crucial for ending violence," conducting elections and restoring full democracy and peace. Separately, UML Standing Committee member Jhala Nath Khanal told Emboff that the Troika statement was fair and balanced.

Comment

15. (C) We are encouraged by the balanced Troika statement. Tom Phillips and his team clearly understood the importance of including both a firm call for reconciliation and an unequivocal condemnation of Maoist violence.

MORIARTY